

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1. (Currently amended) A reader~~Reader~~ device for radio frequency identification transponders, comprising:

a reader logic unit connectable to a radio frequency interface and an antenna, wherein said reader device is adapted configured to cause the reader device to operate in a reader operation mode wherein the reader device transmits interrogation signals to detect and to communicate with said radio frequency identification transponders in a reader operation mode; and

an associated~~a~~ transponder logic unit which is connectable to said the radio frequency interface, wherein said the transponder logic unit is operable configured to cause the reader device to operate in a transponder operation mode, in which said wherein the reader device acts as a radio frequency identification transponder; and

a switching unit configured to activate the transponder logic unit when the reader device is not powered.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Currently amended) Reader The reader device according to claim 1, wherein said the transponder operation mode is operable independently from any a power supply of the reader device and a power supply of a portable device to which the reader device is coupled, and wherein the transponder logic unit is energized by an interrogating signal.

4. (Currently amended) Reader The reader device according to claim [[2]]1, wherein said the reader device is adapted to operate as a passive radio frequency identification transponder in said the transponder operation mode.

5. (Currently amended) Reader The reader device according to claim [[2]]1, wherein said the reader device acts as a passive read-only radio frequency identification transponder in said the transponder operation mode.
6. (Currently amended) Reader The reader device according to claim 1, wherein said the transponder logic unit comprises a transponder memory.
7. (Currently amended) Reader The reader device according to claim 6, wherein said the transponder memory is non-volatile.
8. (Currently amended) Reader The reader device according to claim 6, wherein said the transponder memory is configurable.
9. (Currently amended) Reader The reader device according to claim 1, wherein said the transponder logic unit is coupled through [[a]]-the switch unit to said the radio frequency interface, and wherein said the switch unit is operable to select between said the reader operation mode and said the transponder operation mode.
10. (Currently amended) Reader The reader device according to claim 1, wherein said the reader device operates autonomously in said the transponder operation mode during periods of time, within which said the reader device is not energized.
11. (Currently amended) Reader The reader device according to claim 1, wherein said the radio frequency interface is adapted to provide signals required for operation of said the reader device in said the reader operation mode and said the transponder operation mode.
12. (Currently amended) Reader The reader device according to claim 1, wherein said the reader device supports near field communication (ECMA-340) standard, and wherein said the reader device is operable with a passive communication mode in said the reader operation

mode, wherein said reader device is operable with a show communication mode in said transponder operation mode.

13. (Currently amended) Reader The reader device according to claim 12, wherein said the reader device is operable with an active communication mode in said the reader operation mode.

14 (Currently amended) Portable electronic device which is connected to a reader device for radio frequency identification transponders, wherein said reader device comprises A portable terminal comprising a reader device according to claim 1:

— a radio frequency interface and an antenna, wherein said reader device is adapted to communicate at least with said radio frequency identification transponders in a reader operation mode; and

— an associated transponder logic unit which is connectable to said radio frequency interface, wherein said transponder logic unit is operable in a transponder operation mode, in which said reader device acts as a radio frequency identification transponder.

15-20. (Canceled)

21. (Currently amended) Reader The reader device according to claim 7, wherein said the transponder memory is configurable.

22-24(Canceled)

25. (Currently amended) Reader The reader device according to claim [[2]], wherein said the reader device supports near field communication (ECMA-340) standard, wherein said reader device is operable with a passive communication mode in said reader operation mode, and wherein said the reader device is operable with a show communication mode in said the transponder operation mode.

26. (Currently amended) The portable Portable terminal according to claim 1415, wherein said the portable terminal electronic device is enabled to communicate via a public land mobile network.

27. (Cancelled)

28. (New) A method comprising:

causing a reader device to operate, via a reader logic unit, in a reader operation mode wherein the reader device transmits interrogation signals to detect and communicate with radio frequency identification transponders;

causing the reader device to operate, via a transponder logic unit, in a transponder operation mode wherein the reader device acts as a radio frequency identification transponder; and

activating the transponder logic unit when the reader device is not powered.

29. (New) The method according to claim 28, wherein the transponder operation mode is operable independently from a power supply of the reader device and a power supply of a portable device to which the reader device is connected, and wherein the transponder logic unit is energized by an interrogating signal.

30. (New) The method according to claim 28, further comprising causing the reader device to operate as a passive radio frequency identification transponder in the transponder operation mode.

31. (New) The method according to claim 28, further comprising causing the reader device to act as a passive read-only radio frequency identification transponder in the transponder operation mode.

32. (New) The method according to claim 28, further comprising switching between the reader operation mode and the transponder operation mode via a switch unit.

33. (New) The method according to claim 28, further comprising causing the reader device to operate autonomously in the transponder operation mode during periods of time, within which the reader device is not energized.

34. (New) The method according to claim 28, further comprising providing signals required for operation of the reader device in the reader operation mode and the transponder operation mode via a common radio frequency interface.

35. (New) The method according to claim 28, wherein the reader device supports near field communication (ECMA-340) standard, and wherein the reader device is operable with a passive communication mode in the reader operation mode.

36. (New) The method according to claim 35, wherein the reader device is operable with an active communication mode in the reader operation mode.

37. (New) The method according to claim 28, wherein the reader device supports near field communication (ECMA-340) standard, and wherein the reader device is operable with a show communication mode in the transponder operation mode.